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## IN THE UNITED STATES' DISTRICT COURT STATE OF UTAH

KRISTA KEEL,

Plaintiff,

vs.

O'REILLY AUTO ENTERPRISES, LLC,

Defendant.

PROPOSED ORDER ON STIPULATED MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT, AND TO CLOSE CASE

CASE NO. 2:17-CV-00667

JUDGE JILL N. PARRISH

MAGISTRATE JUDGE EVELYN J. FURSE

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Pursuant to the United States Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.A. § 201), and *Lynn's Food Stores* F.2d 1350, 1352–53 (11th Cir. 1982), the Court finds the parties' agreement to be fair and reasonable. Specifically, the *Peterson* factors weigh in favor of the Court approving the proposed settlement for the following reasons:

- 1. Defendant operates an auto parts store, which earns more than \$500,000 annually, and has more than two (2) employees.
- 2. The plaintiff performed work for the same, which was a non-exempt position under the FLSA.
- 3. Plaintiff claimed she occasionally worked more than 40 hours per work week, but claimed she was not properly paid overtime wages.
- 4. Upon receiving notice about the issues, Defendant reviewed its books, and calculated the amounts that could possibly be owed (if any at all) under Plaintiff's theory.
- 5. Plaintiff at all times was represented by competent legal counsel.
- 6. Both parties felt the facts of the case were in dispute and were not clearly in either party's favor, so a settlement was proper.
- 7. In this case, the Defendant could argue in good faith Plaintiff did not work as many hours as she had claimed, that the drive time she claimed was not compensable time, and that there was no provable retaliation.
- 8. The Parties substantively agree that this case has complex facts, which could lead to an unpredictable outcome.
- 9. The amount offered by Defendant to Plaintiff could likely be the maximum amount of recovery to which Plaintiff would be entitled to if she successfully proved her claims.

- 10. Further, the FLSA also requires that a settlement agreement include an award of reasonable attorney's fees, and the Parties' agreement provides for such.
- 11. In other words, the Plaintiff will get paid, and the Defendant will pay her legal fees, so that the legal fees will not come out of what is paid to Plaintiff. The Court has reviewed the settlement agreement in camera and found the amounts to be fair and reasonable.
- 12. The Court deems the agreement fair and equitable.
- 13. For the reasons stated, the. Court approves the parties proposed settlement, and orders this case closed.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

Judge Jill Parrish United States District Court Judge

Approved as to form:
/s/ Christina M. Jepson
/s/ Alissa M. Jepson
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Attorneys for Defendants